

Frenchtown Board of Education Regular Meeting Agenda

April 7, 2020 6:45 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Opening Statement

Adequate notice of this regularly scheduled meeting of the Frenchtown Board of Education has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting act by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat on January 16, 2020. A copy of this notice has also been posted at the public school, at the municipal building and filed with the borough clerk.

2. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Mr. Adam Blackburn
Mrs. Kara Bobrowski
Mrs. Laura Einhorn

Ms. Laine Nauman
Mrs. Teresa Pearson
Mr. Hugo Rodriguez

Mrs. Kate Nugent

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (all school-related topics; time limits: 30 min. total; 3 min. /person)

At this time, comment is invited on any matter relating to the school district.

Anyone wishing to speak before the board may do so during the public commentary portion of the agenda. The presenter shall give his/her name and address and make the presentation as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is given, each speaker shall be limited to 3 minutes.

Speakers may offer suggestions or express their concerns. However, in public session, the board will not discuss concerns about individual students or staff members. Other, more appropriate, channels are available for expressing concerns about individual students or staff members.

5. 2019/2020 BOARD and DISTRICT GOALS

Frenchtown District Goals (2019- 2020)

1. Incorporate Community Service Learning into the educational program, including an 8th grade capstone community service project.
2. Expand current Personalized Student Learning Plan for students in grades 6 thru 8 to further differentiate and individualize instruction.
3. Consider new scheduling models for middle school.
4. Assess the needs and goals for technology, and anticipate any upcoming expenses. Create a five year technology plan.

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Board Goals (2019- 2020)

1. Negotiate a new teachers' contract with the Frenchtown Education Association to replace the current contract which expires June 30, 2020.
2. By February 1st of 2020, create a three to five year feasibility plan for the district to explore options for dealing with cuts in state funding.
3. Create more opportunities to positively market our school, including participation in town events such as Riverfest and Bastille Day.
4. Assess the viability of Green Certification in our district.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

7. BOARD SECRETARY REPORT

Informational Items

- Board Meeting Schedule
 - ✓ April 28, 2020 – Action Meeting
 - ✓ May 12, 2020 – Action Meeting
 - ✓ June 9, 2020 – Board Retreat/Goal Setting
- Correspondence

Actions Items

7.1 Motion to approve the following minutes:

- February 25, 2020 – Regular Session
- February 25, 2020 – Executive Session

7.2 Motion to approve the following minutes:

- March 10, 2020 – Work Session
- March 10, 2020 – Executive Session

7.3 **Opposing Delay in Transmission of Quarterly Property Tax Revenue to School Districts**

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WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 3902, currently pending in the State Legislature, would authorize the Department of Community Affairs to permit municipalities to delay the quarterly transmission of property tax revenues to school districts during gubernatorial-declared emergencies; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's public schools are highly dependent on property tax revenue to support education programs; and

WHEREAS, on average, local property taxes constitute close to 60% of public school revenue, with the percentage even greater in a significant number of districts; and

WHEREAS, a delay in payments from municipalities would result in a financial crisis for school districts, seriously disrupting the educational process—and bringing it to a halt; and

WHEREAS, although public school buildings are closed during the current health emergency, the education of our students is taking place through remote learning and home instruction; and

WHEREAS, continued timely transmission of school property taxes is critical for the education process to continue without interruption; and

WHEREAS, even though municipalities are designated as the authorities to collect property taxes, these taxes are levied for specific purposes—e.g., municipal, school, county, fire district—and these obligations must continue to be met; and

WHEREAS, as currently written, A-3902, which is intended to ease a financial burden on municipalities, would place a severe strain on school districts and the students and families that they serve; and

WHEREAS, the Frenchtown Board of Education recognizes the impact of the current public health emergency on the state and local governments, as well as local school districts, but believes this legislation would worsen the situation for our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Frenchtown Board of Education urges the State Senate and the Governor to oppose A-3902; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Phil Murphy, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin; and the 23rd Legislative District's representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

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8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Informational Items:

- a. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Monthly Incident Report for period ending April 7, 2020.

Month/Year	# of Incidents Reported	# Identified as HIB	Remediation	Discipline & Remediation	Appealed (Y/N)
Sept 1- Sept 24	0	-	-	-	-
Sept 25 – Oct 15	0	-	-	-	-
Oct 16– Nov 26	3	1	-	Yes	N
Nov 27 – Dec 17	1	0	-	Yes	N
Dec 18 – Jan 28	1	0	-	Yes	N
Jan 29 – Feb 25	3	1	Yes	Yes	-
Feb 26 – April 7	2	1	Yes	Yes	-
April 8 – April 28					
April 29 – May 11					
May 12 – June 23					
TOTAL	10	3			

- b. Short term suspension report - None

Student ID	Violation of Student Code of Conduct	Level of Infraction	Terms of Suspension and Dates	Clearance Required

- c. Security and Fire Drills

Drill	Date Completed
Security Drill	3-13-2020 Cancelled due to potential closure – Prep with Students
Fire Drill	3-23-2020 Planned – Now building closed

Action Items:

HIB Report

- 9.1 Motion to affirm the HIB report submitted on February 25, 2020.

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9. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

10. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Middle School Send/Receive Discussion

11. POLICY

12. CONSENT AGENDA

Matters listed within the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Board of Education and/or its standing committees, for reading and study and will be enacted with one motion. The Personnel items on the consent agenda are recommended by the Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

Action Items:

Finance

Payment of Bills

12.1 Motion to approve the February 26, 2020 through March 31, 2020 bills list as follows:

General Fund:	\$369,835.41
Special Revenue Fund:	\$ 3,886.55
Total	\$373,721.96

Budget Transfers

12.2 Motion to approve the list of the February 2020 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$20,368.00.

Board Secretary/Treasurer Reports

12.3 Motion to approve and acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Board Secretary and after review of the **February 2020** Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports, certify no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23 – 2.11(c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year and that no budgetary line-item account has been exceeded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1, and that no line-

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item account has encumbrances and expenditure, which in total exceed the line-item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A23-2.11(a).

2020/2021 Tuition Rates

12.4 Motion to approve the following tuition rates for the 2020/2021 school year:

K-8 (Employees and Out of State Residents)	\$ 6,500
K (All Others)	\$17,000
Grades 1-8 (All Others)	\$18,000
Preschool Disabilities	\$45,000

Bond Disclosure Agent Services

12.5 Motion to enter into an agreement with Phoenix Advisors, LLC as Bond Continuing Disclosure Agent and Municipal Advisor of Record for the 2020-2021 school year in accordance with the attached contract for a base fee of \$1,000.00 for up to three outstanding issues, plus \$200 initial set up fee for each new bond issue set up during the year.

Accept Donation

12.6 Motion to accept a gymnasium scoring table from Sports Image at no cost to the district. Sports Image will be responsible for securing the sponsorships needed for the table with school district approval of the sponsor.

Facilities

Transportation

Personnel

Payment of Contractual Salaries

12.6 Motion to authorize the Business Administrator to continue to pay contractual base salaries to 10 month and 12 month employees during the health related emergency closure.

Curriculum

Field Trips

12.7 Motion to approve the following field trips:

Destination	Grade	Date
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Frenchtown Food Pantry	Pre-K, K, 1 st & 2 nd	April-TBD
Honey Hollow Environmental Center	3 rd , 4 th & 5 th	Rescheduled to 6-12-2020
Fairview Lakes	7 th Grade - Science	Update for Next Month

Planning

13. NEW BUSINESS

14. PUBLIC COMMENT (all school-related topics; time limits: 30 min. total; 3 min. /person)

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The Board President may terminate the remarks of any individual, when they do not adhere to the rules established above.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R.S. 10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in certain circumstances and

WHEREAS, the Board must consider (see check below), which is/are exempt from public discussion pursuant to the Act;

- 1. Matter which by express provision of law is rendered confidential
- 2. Release of information which would impair receipt of federal funds
- 3. Individual Privacy/ Student Matters
- 4. Collective Bargaining/Negotiations
- 5. Real estate matters
- 6. Disclosure could impair public safety

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- ____ 7. Pending/Anticipated Litigation
- ____ 8. Terms and conditions of employment
- ____ 9. Deliberations involving imposition of specific civil penalty.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session at ____p.m. to discuss the above-mentioned matters to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. Resulting action may or may not be taken following re-entry into regular session.

16. ADJOURNMENT